

ber of eggs would appear to me to indicate a second laying, the first having probably been destroyed.

I am induced to give these records because Mr. Howe has stated in his notes on these birds made at Williamstown, Mass. (Auk, Oct. 1902, p. 404), that the birds did not probably breed in Massachusetts until after the middle of June. This may be true in Berkshire County, but is certainly not true in Massachusetts as a whole. The average summer temperature at Marthas Vineyard is $67\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ and at Williamstown about 65° , but in winter the range is from 32° at the former to 22° at the latter. This causes an earlier spring at Marthas Vineyard and will account for some difference in nesting dates, though I should hardly expect to find it so much as three weeks.—OWEN DURFEE, *Fall River, Mass.*

Recent Records of the Wild Pigeon.—Occasionally some old-timer writes to the newspapers announcing the return of the Wild Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*), and in nine cases out of ten the Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*), has been the innocent cause. One recent discussion in the Toronto papers was brought to an abrupt and apparently satisfying conclusion by the announcement, copied from a sporting journal, that one of the American consuls in South America had stated that the Wild Pigeon had taken refuge on, I think, the east side of the Andes, anyway that the consul and pigeons were far enough away to satisfy the most inquiring. I have for some time kept a careful record of reported announcements of Wild Pigeons, and among them I have selected the following as reliable:

1896. October 22, Toronto. "Saw eleven Wild Pigeons flying in a south-west course over Well's Hill."—J. Hughes Samuel.
1898. April 14, Winnipegosis, Manitoba. An adult male taken, mounted by Mr. G. E. Atkinson, Winnipeg.
1898. September 14, Detroit, Michigan. Immature bird taken, mounted by Mr. C. Champion, Detroit, by whom it was sent to me.
1900. May 16, Toronto, Ont. Mr. Oliver Spanner saw a flock of about ten flying west over the mouth of the Etibocoke River (ten miles west of Toronto), between 10 and 11 A. M., and about an hour afterwards the same flock returned, flying eastward towards Long Branch. Mr. J. G. Joppling had joined Mr. Spanner and saw the birds return; they were flying low, just over the trees.
1900. July 6, Toronto, Ont. "Saw five at Centre Island going southwest. They passed out over the lake."—J. Hughes Samuel.
1902. May 16, Penctanquishene, Ont. One seen; pair seen two days later, in same locality by Mr. A. L. Young.—J. H. FLEMING, *Toronto, Ont.*

Turkey Vulture at Moose Factory, James Bay.—The Rt. Rev. Dr. Newnhan, Bishop of Moosonee, examined a Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) taken by one of his men at Moose Factory in June, 1898. The record was given to me the following year, but I neglected to record it.—J. H. FLEMING, *Toronto, Ont.*

Black Vulture at Taunton, Mass.—I take pleasure in recording the capture of an adult female Black Vulture (*Catharista urubu*) at Taunton, Mass., on Oct. 5, 1902. This is the first record for the species in Bristol County, and there are but very few records for the State.

The bird was discovered sitting on the roof of a barn, where it remained while its captor went to the house for his gun.—A. C. BENT, *Taunton, Mass.*

Golden Eagle in Middle Southern Ohio.—To my only record of *Aquila chrysaetos* for middle southern Ohio as given in the 'Wilson Bulletin' for September, 1902, page 83, I am now able to add another. On Nov. 15, 1902, I received an almost adult female in the flesh, shot Nov. 14, two miles from Waverly, Ohio. It measured: Extent, 2150 mm.; bill, 83 mm. (curvature included); tarsus, 110 mm.; tail, 335 mm.; wing, 620 mm.; length without bill, 820 mm.—W. F. HENNINGER, *Tiffin, Ohio.*

Richardson's Merlin (*Falco columbarius richardsonii*) on the Coast of South Carolina.—Upon looking over some Pigeon Hawks (*F. columbarius*) that I had packed away for many years, I came across a superb female that struck me at once as being none other than Richardson's Merlin. Upon comparing the specimen with Mr. Ridgway's description in his 'Manual of N. A. Birds' I found the bird to agree perfectly. The secondaries, primaries and primary coverts are margined terminally with white. The outer webs of the primaries (except the second) are spotted with ochraceous. The tail has six light and five dark bands. The specimen is apparently an *adult* female and was shot and prepared by the writer on October 15, 1895, near Mount Pleasant, S. C.

To what extent the list of South Carolina birds can be increased by the capture of northwestern birds there can be no conjecture.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

The Barn Owl on Long Island.—When Mr. Beard made the record of this species in 'The Auk,' Vol. XIX, p. 398, he evidently had overlooked the previous record of the same family of owls in Vol. III, p. 439.—WILLIAM DUTCHER, *New York.*

Barn Owl in Northern Ohio.—While the Barn Owl (*Strix pratineola*) is a fairly common bird in the State of Ohio south of Columbus, records of this bird from northern Ohio are rather scarce (*cf.* Oberholser, *Birds of Wayne Co., Ohio*, p. 280). In a local collection here I found two mounted specimens, not sexed, of this species, both killed in the fall of 1901 almost within the city limits of Tiffin. One of these had been kept in captivity for about six months by the coroner of Seneca County. A third specimen was seen at the time the others were captured.—W. F. HENNINGER, *Tiffin, Ohio.*